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Muscle Shoals Baptist Association



v. 1. 1850

v. 2. 1854

v. 3. 1855

v. 4. 1858

v. 5. 1859

v. 6. 1861

v. 7. 1867

v. 8. 1871

v. 9. 1885

v. 10. 1887

v. 11. 1888

v. 12. 1891

v. 13. 1892

v. 14. 1893

v. 15. 1895

v. 16. 1896

v. 17. 1897

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v. 19. 1899

v. 20. 1900

MINUTES

OF THE

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

OF AMATEURS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AND THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION

OF AMATEURS

OF THE UNITED STATES



MINUTES
THE THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL
MUSCLE-SHOAL ASSOCIATION
OF
BAPTISTS.

CONVENED AT MOULTON, LAWRENCE COUNTY, ALABAMA,

FRIDAY BEFORE THE FIRST LORD'S DAY

IN OCTOBER, 1850.



TUSCUMBIA:
PRINTED BY WILLIAM HOLLISTON, NORTH ALABAMIAN OFFICE.
1850.

MINUTES.

MOULTON, FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER, 4, 1850.

1st. The Delegates met in Moulton, on Friday morning the 4th of October, 1850. The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder Sylvanus Gibson, from Phil. 2nd chapter, 5th verse—"Let this *mind* be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."

2nd. After which, the Delegates assembled in the church, prayer by bro. Wm. Lucas.

3rd. The letters from the churches were called for, read, and the names of the delegates enrolled.

4th. Called for petitionary letters from new churches. Four presented, read, and cordially received into union with us, viz: Russelville, Oakaloney, Spout Spring and Antioch.

5th. Appointed the following bre. Committee of arrangements, viz: F. C. Owen, R. B. Burleson, John H. Edmiston, with the Moderator and Clerk.

After prayer by bro. Vincent, the Association adjourned until Saturday morning, 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Association met, prayer by bro. Gunn.

1st. Elder S. Gibson was chosen Moderator, and A. L. Stovall Clerk.

2nd. Called for the report of the arranging Committee, which was read, received, and the Committee discharged.

3rd. Called for correspondence from sister Associations. Received a letter and Minutes from Canaan Association, by bro. Speakman. From Liberty Association bre. Toliver and Sealey, were cordially received as messengers. From Big Bear Creek Association, a letter and Minutes, by bro. Atkinson.

4th. Visiting bre. were invited to seats with us. Bro. Breidenthal and Holt were present and accepted.

5th. Appointed the following Committees, viz:

On Finance: Thomas Ashford, C. Gibson and M. W. Mays.

On Documents: Wm. Lucas, R. B. Burleson and F. C. Owen.

On Education: E. D. Townes, A. A. Burleson, Jackson Gunn, John H. Edmiston and A. L. Stovall.

On Missions: Thomas Ashford, John W. Miller, J. C. Vincent, P. M. Musgrove and A. Howk.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

Minute fund in the Treasury,	\$30 69	
Contributions for 1850,	48 85	
Total	\$79 54	

Ordered by the Association that \$19 54 be added to the widow's and Orphan's fund,

19 54

60 00

Widow's and Orphan's Fund: From the churches, \$59 00
From the Minute Fund, 19 54—\$78 54

Distributed as follows: To sister Irwin, \$20 00
To bro. Gilbert's children, 25 00
To sister Cummings, 33 54—\$78 54

Missionary Fund: Contributions from churches, \$324 60
Collections on the Lord's day, 32 65—\$357 25
Paid Travelling Preachers, \$161 50
Remaining, \$195 76

UNION MEETINGS.

1st. District: At Russellville, Saturday before the 2nd Lord's day in August; Bre. Gunn, Vincent and Stovall to attend. Bro. Stovall to preach the first sermon.

2nd. District: At Harmony Grove, Saturday before 2nd Lord's day in August, Bre. Gibson and Edmiston to attend. Bro. Gibson to preach the introductory sermon.

3rd. District: In Decatur, Saturday before the 4th Lord's day in July; Bre. Gibson, Stovall and Gunn to attend. Bro. Gibson to preach the first sermon.

4th. District: At Brown's Valley, Saturday before the 2nd Lord's day in August, Bre. Steely, Musgrove, Vasser and Glenn to attend. Bro. Steely to preach the introductory.

THE NEXT ASSOCIATION.

The next Association to be held with the Caney Creek Church, Franklin county, Friday before the 1st Lord's day in October 1851. Elder R. B. Burgeson to preach the introductory sermon on Ministerial Support. Bro. J. Gunn to write the Circular, on Practical Godliness.

The Circular Letter written by Bro. Lucas was read, approved, and ordered to be appended to the minutes.

REPORTS OF TRAVELING PREACHERS.

Called for the reports of Traveling Preachers.

Bro. Jno. W. Miller, reported: Engaged 104 days, traveled 1042 miles, preached 83 sermons, delivered 18 exhortations, attended 10 prayer meetings, and 6 protracted meetings, baptized 9, ordained one Deacon, constituted 1 church, expenses 50 cents.

The association awarded to Bro. Miller \$58 25.

Bro. Wm. Whaley, reported: Engaged 70 days, preached 38 sermons, 5 exhortations, traveled 663 miles, attended 6 protracted meetings, witnessed 15 conversions, received \$4 00. The association awarded to Bro. Whaley \$34 50.

Bro. J. R. Cagle, reported: Engaged 31 days, traveled 525 miles, sermons 20, exhortations 17, baptized 22, constituted 2 churches, ordained 2 deacons. Also labored one month not included in the above. The Association awarded to Bro. Cagle \$33 55.

Bro. R. R. Morrow, reported: Engaged 48 days, preached 28 sermons, exhortations 11, traveled 569 miles, attended 15 prayer meetings, witnessed 20 conversions, expenses \$1 00. Received 95 cts. The Association awarded to Bro. Morrow \$25 00.

Bro. Geo. D. Russell, reported: Engaged 19 days, preached 11 sermons, exhortations 6, traveled 136 miles, attended 4 protracted meetings, assisted in the ordination of 2 deacons. Received 25 cts. The Association awarded to Bro. Russell \$10 20.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence with sister associations, as follows: Liberty Association: Bre. Russell, Scruggs, Edmiston, E. Elliot, Stovall, and Owen.—Bro. Stovall to write.

Big Bear Creek Association: Bre. Edmiston and Miller. Bro. Miller to write.

Canaan Association: Bro. P. M. Musgrove to write and convey minutes.

Judson Association: Bro. Woolard to visit, and Bro. Burleson to write.

MESSENGERS TO GENERAL ASSOCIATION, &c.

Bre. Edmiston, Gunn, Vincent, Ashford, Massengale, E. Borum, E. Elliot, G. D. Russell, J. R. Cagle, and H. Atkinson, messengers to the General Association, of Tennessee and North Alabama.

Bre. A. A. Burleson, F. C. Owen, R. B. Burleson, A. L. Stovall, E. D. Townes, Jno. H. Edmiston and S. Gibson, messengers to the Biennial Convention at Nashville.

Moved and carried, that the choice of preachers for Lord's Day, be referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

After prayer by Bro. Burleson, the Association adjourned to meet again Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

LORD'S DAY.

Bre. Breidenthal, Gunn, and Lucas, preached in the order of their names, in the Presbyterian Church, to large congregations. Bre. Toliver and Stovall in the Christian Church, and Bro. Miller in the Court-House. We trust the seed sown will be as "Bread cast upon the waters."

MONDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Association met. Prayer by Bro. Holt.

Bre. Gunn, and Mays, who had been previously appointed to draft suit-

ble resolutions in memory of our deceased Brethren in the Ministry, reported the following, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the mournful intelligence of the death of two of our beloved brethren in the Ministry, has reached this body, viz: JNO. T. MUSGROVE, and WM. IRWIN, the former in the 63rd year of his age, after having devoted a long life in the service of his God, showing by his zeal and piety to all who knew him, that he was a man of God. The latter in the prime of life, on his way from this State to Texas, was suddenly cut off, but not before he too had given proof of his zeal and piety in the cause of his Master.

Therefore we, the Association, feeling the loss we have sustained in this dispensation of Divine Providence, and sympathising with their bereaved relatives and friends, do take this mode of manifesting our love and esteem for our departed Brethren, and pray that God may bless, sustain, and save their families.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Resolved, That we earnestly commend to the action of the churches composing this body, the formation, and efficient conducting of Sabbath Schools, in all our churches.

Query. What course should be pursued by a travelling preacher, when individuals demand baptism at his hands, where there is no church convenient, and no members present who are willing to take the responsibility of receiving such applicants?

Answer. We think it is at all times best, to receive and Baptize applicants by and with the advice and consent of the church, or members of the church. Where such is not the case, and cannot be conveniently done, we advise that the minister proceed to administer the ordinance, and give a certificate recommending those Baptized to the fellowship of the nearest Baptist church.

Resolved, That we recommend the cause of Foreign Missions to the prayerful, and pecuniary consideration of the churches and Brethren of this Association.

WHEREAS, the biblical knowledge imparted to our colored people has hitherto been small, we recommend to the churches, to appoint their deacons or some other competent brethren to meet with them on some suitable hour on Lord's Day, and read the bible to them, and instruct them.

Resolved, That we have spread upon our minutes the name of the pastor or supply of each church, with their post offices.

Resolved, That this Association request the General Association, to aid us in locating and sustaining a suitable minister in the town of Florence, Alabama.

Resolved, That our travelling preachers be instructed to present, prudently, the obligations of the people, or churches, for whose benefit they labor, to aid the Association in sustaining them.

Resolved, That bro. D. Breidenthal be requested to prepare, and send for publication in the Tennessee Baptist, the Sermon delivered by him on Lord's Day.

Received the report, made by the Brethren appointed to grant Letters to the members in Carmel church. Letters granted to 6 Whites, Blacks 64, Excluded 1, Dead 5.

Collection for bro. Johnson, who is at Murfreesboro'—\$50 50 cash; \$20 subscribed, \$70 50.

PLEDGES FOR HOME MISSIONS.

The following pledges made, to be sent up to the next Association, for home mission purposes: F. C. Owen, for Moulton church, \$50. Thomas Ashford, for Courtland \$50. Wm. Harris, for T. Creek \$40. S. Gibson for Hopewell \$40. H. Jarman, for Mt. Pleasant \$40. A. A. Burlerson, for Decatur \$30. L. D. Massengale, for Liberty \$25. E. D. Townes, for Tusculumbia \$30. R. Duckett, for Bear Creek \$20. Thomas Chiles, for Macedonia \$10. John Reeves, for Oakaloney \$5. H. Atkinson, for Cane Creek \$10. E. Borum, for H. Grove \$10. Isaac Whorton, for B. Valley \$5. R. Kent and Wm. Kirby, for Bethel \$10. Whole amount \$375.

Query from Mount Nebo: What shall be done by our churches, when members from Anti-Mission churches make application for membership with us, who have been denied letters to join us by their respective churches?

Answer: If they are known to be orderly, receive them.

Ordered that the surplus Minute fund, be added to the Widow's and Orphan's fund.

TRAVELING PREACHERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

The Association made choice of the following brethren, to travel and preach during the Associational year as follows: Bro. J. R. Cagle requested to spend the whole year, if possible. Occupy the southern part of Lawrence county, beginning at the western boundary of Morgan, and embrace the destitute part of Hancock county, adjoining to Lawrence and Franklin, extending south so as to embrace Antioch church; not only preach, but visit families, and if possible furnish Testaments, and suitable religious tracts; and report to the Association.

Bro. John W. Miller, appointed to labor two days in each month at Spout Spring; also at Rock Creek, for which services the Association agrees to give him \$50. Bro. Miller requested to call upon those congregations to aid the Association in paying the above amount.

Bro. Wm. R. Steely appointed to labor half the year, in the eastern bounds of this Association, viz: Eastern part of Morgan, that portion of Marshall county south of Tennessee river, including some destitute places in Blount county, and report to the next Association.

The former Executive Committee re-appointed.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The report of the Committee on Education, read, unanimously adopted, and ordered to be spread on the minutes.

REPORT.

God has committed to our people high and holy trusts. We alone, of all nations, are blessed with true civil and religious liberty; the preservation of these gifts depend, under God, upon the education and moral training of our youth. Hence it is the duty of every citizen to promote, to the full extent of his ability, the cause of popular education. This duty is especially incumbent upon every Christian: For knowledge and virtue are the surest companions of Piety and Religion. Our position as Baptists, dwelling in the Mississippi Valley, adds to the weight of our obligations. This great valley, from its central position, its wealth and its population, is destined to control the political action of our government and give laws to our Union.

The Baptists within its limits number *one-fourth* of the communicants in evangelical Churches. We have near 5000 organized churches and 400,000 members, with their full proportion of the whole wealth of the valley. Upon our exertions then, depends the correct training of thousands, who are the hope of our country, and in a high degree of the whole family of man. We cannot, if we would, avoid the responsibility of our position. Let us then, as a denomination, trusting in God for his support and guidance, come up to the great work He has assigned us. Let us as individuals and as an association of churches, do all in our power to diffuse and extend Education, Morality and Religion.

As an earnest of our intention to carry out the foregoing views by positive action, and as the most efficient means now within our reach, your committee report the following resolutions for the adoption of the Association:

1. *Resolved*, That we recommend the Union University, to the continued patronage of our denomination.

2. *Resolved*, That we also recommend the Female Institute, recently located at Murfreesboro' Tennessee, to the liberality and patronage of our denomination, and urge upon all the members of our churches a strong and united effort to build it up and sustain it, as a denominational school of the highest grade.

3. *Resolved*, That in conformity with the resolution of our General Association, recommending Associational Schools, we will establish a Female Institute in the town of Moulton, to be under the charge and direction of this Association.

4. *Resolved*, That Isaac N. Owen, Charles Gibson, James Armstrong, E. D. Townes, Dr. J. W. Micheaux, Thomas Ashford, A. L. Stovall, Gen. P. J. Irons, John H. Edmiston, Amos Jarman, Jackson Gunn, Thomas M. Peters and Dr. A. A. Burleson, be appointed and requested to act as Trustees of the Institute; and that they be empowered to adopt such measures as they may deem necessary to put the school in immediate and successful operation; and that they report their proceedings, and the state of the school to each annual session of this Association.

5. *Resolved*, That the Trustees be requested to organize themselves forthwith as a Board, appoint an agent to collect funds, and as soon as

may be, erect, or purchase the necessary buildings for the Institute, and elect a suitable number of able and competent teachers; and that they report to the next session of this Association a charter for the Institute, to be presented to our State Legislature, with a view to its passage as an act of Incorporation.

6. *Resolved*, That the Trustees be requested, if they think it expedient, to adopt the school now taught by Elder R. B. Burleson, as an Associational school, and as the beginning and ground work of the Institute.

7. *Resolved*, That we feel and acknowledge the importance of establishing within the bounds of the Association, a male Academy of high grade, under its charge and direction; and that the Association should take measures as soon as practicable to carry this object into effect.

E. D. TOWNES, *Chairman*.

Ordered, that 1,200 copies of minutes be published, the clerk to superintend, and receive \$20 for his services. Bro. Gunn to distribute in District No. 1, Bro. Stovall in District No. 2, Bro. Wise in District No. 3, Bro. Musgrove in District No. 4.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the people of Moulton and its vicinity, for their hospitality to the delegates during their stay with them.

After prayer, the Brethren gave to each other the parting hand, and the Association was adjourned.

S. GIBSON, *Moderator*.

A. L. STOVALL, *Clerk*.

TABLE

Giving the Pastors and Supplies of the different Churches, together with their Post-offices.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	SUPPLIES.	POST OFFICES OF MINISTERS.	POST OFFICES OF CHURCHES.
Tuscumbia,	Jackson Gunn,	.....	Tuscumbia, ..	Tuscumbia, ..
Cane Creek,	J. Dought,	.....	Tuscumbia, ..	Tuscumbia, ..
Cedar Creek,	J. W. Miller,	.....	Blue Lick,	Tuscumbia, ..
Mount Nebo, .....	.....	Destitute, .....	.....	Russellville, ..
Macedonia,	G. D. Russell,	.....	Mount Hope, ..	Newburg,
Mount Moriah, .....	.....	T. S. Carson, ..	Leighton,	La Grange,
Florence, .....	.....	Destitute, .....	.....	Florence,
Bluff Creek, .....	.....	J. C. Vincent, ..	Leighton,	Graviy Springs
Tharp's Spring, .....	.....	T. S. Carson, ..	.....	Russellville, ..
Russellville, .....	.....	J. C. Vincent, ..	Leighton,	Russellville, ..
Spout Spring, .....	.....	J. W. Miller, ..	Blue Lick,	Rock Creek,
Bethel, .....	.....	T. S. Carson, ..	.....	Leighton,
Mount Pleasant, .....	.....	J. C. Vincent, ..	Leighton,	Leighton,
Courtland, .....	.....	A. L. Stovall, ..	Mount Hope, ..	Courtland,
Liberty, .....	.....	Jackson Gunn, ..	.....	Courtland,
Town Creek,	A. L. Stovall, ..	.....	Mount Hope, ..	Mount Hope, ..
Salem,	J. R. Cagle, ..	.....	Moulton,	Moulton,
Harmony Grove, .....	.....	Wm. Lucas,	Decatur,	Hillsboro',
Enon, .....	.....	S. Gibson,	Oakville,	Oakville,
Moulton, .....	.....	A. L. Stovall, ..	Mount Hope, ..	Moulton,
Autioch, .....	.....	J. R. Cagle, ..	.....	Thorn Hill,
Oakaloney,	T. S. Carson, ..	.....	Leighton,	Leighton,
Friendship, .....	.....	Destitute, .....	.....	Oakville,
Hopewell,	S. Gibson, .....	.....	.....	Houston's Store
Mount Pisgah, .....	.....	Wm. Lucas,	Decatur,	Decatur,
Spring Hill,	Wm. Lucas, ..	.....	Decatur,	Decatur,
Decatur, .....	.....	Wm. Lucas, .....	.....	Decatur,
Shoal Creek, .....	.....	Unknown, .....	.....	Somerville,
Pleasant Grove, .....	.....	Unknown, .....	.....	Somerville,
Pleasant Hill, .....	.....	Unknown, .....	.....	Decatur,
Flint Creek, .....	.....	Unknown, .....	.....	Somerville,
Shilo, .....	.....	Destitute, .....	.....	Somerville,
Mount Tabour,	P. M. Musgrove, ..	.....	Blountsville, ..	Blountsville, ..
Hopewell in Blount, .....	.....	Destitute, .....	.....	Blountsville, ..
Blue Spring, .....	.....	Destitute, .....	.....	Somerville,
Brown's Valley, .....	.....	P. M. Musgrove, ..	Blountsville, ..	Unknown,
Good Hope, .....	.....	Destitute, .....	.....	Blountsville, ..

CIRCULAR LETTER.

TRUE CHRISTIAN DEVOTEDNESS.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The subject of our present Circular Address is true Christian devotedness. Of the importance of my theme, and its applicability to the times, no one who has reflected upon the subject can entertain a doubt. As a denomination we are enjoying a state of prosperity unequalled in any portion of the past history of the Church: Light is spreading and truth is taking hold on the hearts of men: Darkness is receding before the blaze of Gospel truth, which leads us to believe that our triumph is not distant. Yet smiled upon as we are by the Great head of the Church, and possessing, as we are led to believe we do, many excellent traits of Christian character, we should not consider it as proof positive that we are in all respects above censure. Notwithstanding there may be much in a Church to call forth the admiration of Christians and the approbation of the Redeemer, yet there may be, at the same time, such a radical deficiency in other important particulars, as to render it the proper object of reproof. A Church, for instance, may be strictly orthodox in its religious tenets, and yet for want of activity render the Truth in which it glories inert and powerless, and from being a healthful fountain, sending forth through the channels of Christian activity a refreshing and sanctifying influence, may become a stagnant pool, rotting in its motionless repose, polluting the air with its noxious exhalations, converting into a desolate morass the region it should fertilize and bless. Should not considerations of this kind arouse us all to our duty, that we may no longer be hearers and approvers only, but doers of the work.

For it is an awful and alarming thought, that all short of the vital power of religion may exist, where selfishness, instead of God, governs the heart. We should, therefore, consider what real religion demands, and inquire whether ours is such as leads us to devote ourselves entirely, unreservedly and eternally to God. The inquiry is needful, for many deceive themselves. Not all that profess to be disciples of Jesus here, will dwell with Jesus above; for we read of those who profess that they know God, but in works deny him; who wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. You may profess to trust in Christ, and call him Lord; you may be ever engaged in his service, and yet be no Christian. [Math. vii, 21st.] "*Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven.*"

Is not the inquiry, then, of the utmost importance, whether you have received Jesus with all your heart, to cleave to him in pain and in ease, in wealth and in poverty, in honor and in dishonor, in the sunshine and in the storm, in life and in death, in time and in eternity? Christ demands this.

Does he demand too much; or lay a heavy yoke on the neck of his disciples? No. His yoke is easy, and his burden is light. "His ways are ways of pleasantness and all his paths are paths of peace," "For the love of Christ constraineth us." Wherever the vital and unadulterated spirit of Christian devotion prevails, its immediate object will be to adore the "perfections of God; to entertain with reverence and complacency the various intimations of his pleasure; to pray for the propagation and establishment of Truth, Righteousness and Peace on earth, contributing to the great and worthy purpose according to the ability given. The Christian's love to the Redeemer evaporates not in empty profession; but constrains him to live, not to himself, but unto Him who died for him and rose again. Our Saviour has taught us by an impressive miracle, that the leaves of a fair profession will not be valued, where the fruit is wanting; and has given the rule for determining who are, and who are not, his true followers. [John xv, 5.] "He that abideth in me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit." And again: "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit." And our Saviour lets us know that our fruitfulness springs from a vital union with Him, the living vine. For saith an apostle: "We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto God; works which God hath foreordained that we should walk in them." [I. Cor. vi, 19-20.] "Ye are not your own, for ye are bought with a price." Therefore we are admonished by the apostle to glorify Him in our bodies and in our spirits, which are his, presenting our bodies and our spirits as "a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable, which is our reasonable service." An instructive example of the Christian spirit we find exemplified by the apostle Paul, [Acts xxiv, 16.] "Herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God and toward men." A conscience void of offence toward God, that should charge him with no neglect of Gods' precepts; that should witness that he devoted his whole heart, and all he was, and had, to God. A conscience void of offence toward men, that should bear testimony to his fidelity in the discharge of all the duties of life; exemplifying the mild and brilliant glories of christianity to the world, in the exercise of the christian graces: Witness his untiring zeal, his unwearied patience, his expansive benevolence. Yet such were his ideas of the exalted nature of holiness, that he still continued to pant after larger measures of grace, and a closer approximation to the divine image; counting not his life dear to himself, so that he might finish his course with joy. And he admonishes us, Brethren, to be followers of him, as he was of Christ. Many and weighty are the motives that urge upon the Christian the importance of a more entire devotedness to Christ and his cause. One powerful motive, and sufficient of itself to call forth all our resources, and excite in us a spirit of activity, is the shortness of time. This life being the only season in which some of the christian graces can be exercised. Now we must feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick, and cheer the broken hearted; for in Heaven are found no sons of need. Now we must labor for the diffusion of gospel light; so never let us be idle, remembering that the time for these things will soon be passed by with us, and once gone it is gone forever. And as we wish to promote the glory of God, and the eternal welfare of men, we must let our light shine, and continue to send forth through the channels of Christian activity, a healthful influence; in the language of an inspired apostle, "holding forth the word of life." And may we not ask, who that feels one spark of love to God, or love to man, but must be anxious to ac-

compleish Heaven's benevolent design, and saved himself, to be the means of saving others?

My dear Brethren: Can we possess the spirit of Christ, and not labor and strive to benefit those who are perishing around us? Can we, if truly christians, remain indifferent to the prosperity of Zion? Has not redeeming love, my Brethren, displayed to us its choicest stores—costly as the wealth of Heaven, yet free as the air we breathe and lasting as the eternity of God? And the Giver of these mercies bids us communicate the tidings to others. "Let him that heareth say come." May we not ask, where is the spirit of Christ amongst us? Upon whom has his mantle fallen, all wet with tears for the perishing? My Brethren, let us wake to our responsibility, ere the wrath of God wake us to sleep no more. And with earnest, ardent and longing desires, my Brethren, may we continue to implore his grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ, and breathe after the everlasting enjoyment of his presence. For in his presence is fulness of joy, and at his right hand are pleasures evermore. My dear Brethren: Let us reflect what we are about. Let us put on our complete armor. Some of us are not in full panoply. And let us sing together one of the songs of Zion, and to that music let us march on to the conquest of the world for Jesus. He is already in the field; let us hasten to his support. Let us give ourselves to the Lord, and to one another, and all, actuated by one spirit, move on to the conquest in one mighty phalanx, and victory will flash along our ranks, and finally perch upon our standard; and the hour will hasten when the whole earth shall become a temple, and that temple be filled with the glory of God; when every human heart shall swell with the angelic hymn, "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, and good will to men!" when the pealing chorus of a renovated world shall answer back the acclamation of the skies, and every creature which is in Heaven, and on the earth, shall say "Allelujah! the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth!"

WILLIAM LUCAS.

TABLE AND STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Day of Meeting.	Received by Baptism.	Rec'd by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Discl.	White Members.	Black Members.	Total in Fellowship.	Contributions for Minutes.	Contributions for Traveling Preachers.	Widow and Orphan's Fund.	
DISTRICT NO. 1.														
TUSCUMBIA.	Jackson Gunn, o. E. D. Townes, E. Elliott, A.	4	9	7	...	...	...	58	190	248	\$2 00	\$10 00	...
CANE CREEK.	J. Doughty, o. H. Atkinson, L. Rackard.	4	13	2	3	5	1	79	66	145	2 00	...	...
CEDAR CREEK.	J. W. Miller, o. S. Sparks, A. J. Skinner, A.	4	2	3	...	1	...	37	1	38	1 00	...	...
MOUNT NEBO.	G. W. Hargot, H. Townsend, John K. Fike.	3	1	2	...	...	...	23	27	50	1 50	...	...
MACEDONIA.	G. D. Russell, o. G. D. Cleere, A. T. Chiles.	3	1	2	22	4	5	119	...	119	1 00	7 00	\$2 00	
MOUNT MORIAH.	M. King, H. Gargis, William H. Brian.	4	10	3	...	1	...	35	1	36	1 50	...	...
FLORENCE.	E. Willet, A. T. J. Crow, A. J. A. Fortlock.	4	...	...	...	...	...	16	2	18	1 00	...	...
BLUFF CREEK.	R. Duckett, J. Duckett, A. E. G. Young, A.	1	27	5	1	10	2	122	55	177	2 00	15 00	...	
THARP'S SPRING.	W. Vess, J. G. Whitlock, R. Tharp, A.	3	1	3	...	5	1	43	...	43	1 40	...	...
RUSSELLVILLE.	A. Johnson, E. Harris, A. W. T. Patterson, A.	2	...	...	...	...	...	13	2	15	1 00	...	...
SPOUT SPRING.	Charles Womble, Thomas Savage, A.	3	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	8	75	...	...
DISTRICT NO. 2.														
BETHEL.	J. Landers, A. R. Kent, W. C. Kirby.	1	...	...	...	86	2	1	128	1	2 00	...	...
MOUNT PLEASANT.	J. Alexander, H. Jarman, A. Stanley.	4	13	2	...	2	4	61	151	212	2 50	31 00	10 00	
COURTLAND.	Thomas Ashford, M. W. Mays, William Elliot.	1	2	2	...	3	4	30	57	87	2 00	50 00	20 00	
TOWN CREEK.	J. C. Brown, o. L. D. Massengale, S. H. Fowler.	3	26	4	...	1	...	76	193	269	1 50	20 00	10 00	
SALEM.	J. R. Cagle, o. S. M. Woolard, o. William Harris.	2	69	20	2	12	3	1	252	21	273	2 00	21 00	
HARMONY GROVE.	T. B. S. Cook, E. B. Ward, J. W. Hansel.	1	...	2	...	10	1	60	13	73	1 50	3 20	...	
ENON.	C. Gibson, J. Fuller, D. W. Jones.	2	...	1	...	2	1	37	6	43	1 00	5 00	...	
MOULTON.	F. C. Owen, R. B. Bureson, o. W. H. Salmon.	3	1	3	...	6	1	77	23	100	2 00	15 00	...	
ANTIOCH.	J. B. Bird, J. J. Bird, J. Taylor.	4	11	4	1	4	5	69	10	79	2 00	50 00	10 00	
OAKALONEY.	T. S. Carson, o. William C. Brown, J. Reeves.	4	26	11	...	...	...	41	...	41	50	...	...
DISTRICT NO. 3.														
FRIENDSHIP.	J. Simpson, J. McDaniel, R. Simpson.	4	...	...	...	1	...	18	2	20	1 00	...	...
HOPEWELL.	S. Gibson, o. J. Wise, W. Nunn, L.	1	2	4	...	5	...	86	13	99	2 00	41 00	...	
MOUNT PISGAH.	J. Bureson, J. Sandlin, M. Ford, A.	3	...	2	...	3	1	132	39	171	1 50	5 40	...	
SPRING HILL.	William Lucas, o. W. Thompson, o. Wm. Pitman.	1	7	...	...	1	2	39	21	60	1 00	9 50	...
DECATUR.	John N. Edmiston, o. A. Howk, A. A. Bureson.	4	3	1	...	1	3	29	7	36	1 00	25 00	...	
SHOAL CREEK.	R. Radcliffe, A. J. Halbrook, William Dollar.	1	2	...	...	3	...	74	2	76	1 00	...	...
PLEASANT GROVE.	S. Lassater, C. E. Russ, J. Holloway, A.	2	1	...	...	5	...	33	2	35	1 00	...	...
PLEASANT HILL.	William Abbot, E. Moss, D. Gregory.	4	2	5	...	2	...	41	...	41	1 25	2 00	...	
FLINT CREEK.	C. L. Wilhite, W. W. White, J. R. Lynn, A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	18	50	...	...
SHILO.	E. W. Pope, J. Taber, A. J. Thompson, A.	4	1	...	...	1	...	88	10	98	2 00	...	...
DISTRICT NO. 4.														
MOUNT TABOUR.	P. M. Musgrove, o. Wm. Whaley, L. A. F. Glenn, L.	3	15	1	...	3	1	50	5	55	1 00	4 00	...	
HOPEWELL in Blount.	R. Sandlin, I. Edwards, A. William Bland, A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	15	75	...	...
BLUE SPRING.	L. Homes, I. Weaver, A. B. Thompson, A.	1	...	1	...	...	...	20	...	20	1 00	5 00	...
BROWN'S VALLEY.	Isaac Whorton, James Berry.	3	9	...	...	1	...	23	3	26	1 00	5 00	...
GOOD HOPE.	No Messengers.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL.		...	255	80	...	187	5	26	2070	923	2993	\$49 40	\$327 10	\$52 00

Ordained Ministers marked [o]; Licensed [L]; Absentees [A].

The difference in this table and the report of the Committee of Finance, is caused by a failure, in the Letters to mention the amount sent up.